



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREGORY S. BELL
Lieutenant Governor

Department of
Workforce Services

KRISTEN COX
Executive Director

GREGORY B. GARDNER
Deputy Director

JON S. PIERPONT
Deputy Director

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Contact: Mark Knold 801-526-9458

UTAH'S EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY: MAY 2011

Statistics generated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D.C., derived from monthly employer and household surveys.

SALT LAKE CITY—Utah's nonfarm wage and salaried job count for May 2011 expanded by 1.5 percent compared to May 2010. This is a 12-month increase of 17,400 jobs, and raises total wage and salary employment to 1,200,400.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, Utah's other primary indicator of current labor market conditions also generated by BLS, registered 7.3 percent. Last May, the state's rate was 7.8 percent, thus representing a 0.5 percentage-point decline over the past 12 months. Approximately 99,700 Utahns are considered unemployed. The United States unemployment rate, compared to last month, has moved up one-tenth of a point to 9.1 percent.

"These latest unemployment numbers reinforce that Utah's economy is moving in the right direction," said Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert. "We recognize that there are still far too many Utahns who are unable to find work, but I'm confident that we will continue to steadily create jobs. We will continue to support the private sector in its efforts to grow Utah's economy as we lead nation out of the economic downturn."

The Utah economy continues to make steps toward economic recovery. Job growth is estimated at 1.5 percent over the past twelve months, and the state's unemployment rate has trended downward. However, even with these improvements, there is continued stress in the labor market, and there are still forces working against the economy such as rising commodity prices and a difficult housing market. The percentage of people age 16 and over who held a job last May was 63.2 percent. This May it is down to 62.0 percent—even with 17,000 more jobs. The labor force participation rate (those 16 and older either working or looking for work) declined from 68.2 percent last May, to 66.9 percent currently. Some people may have stopped looking for a job and have exited the labor force due to discouragement or to pursue further education, bringing down the unemployment rate.

One of those areas still working against the economy is housing. Recent national statistics surrounding housing show a very distressed industry. This also includes Utah's housing industry with foreclosures and distressed sales high, and new permit activities for the first five months of this year disappointingly low. This explains why approximately 1,300 fewer construction jobs are estimated in May than this same time last year. Earlier monthly commentaries in this monthly employment release were withholding judgment to get a better gauge of the construction industry's health; waiting for employment counts during the "construction" period—i.e. the warm spring months. This month's numbers disappoint. With the wet weather that has characterized

May 2011
Labor Market Indicators

Utah
Employment % Change: 1.5%
Employment # Change: 17,400
Unemployment Rate: 7.3%

United States

Employment Change: 0.7%
Unemployment Rate: 9.1%

Utah's spring this year, it is possible these contracted numbers are a result of weather and not economic factors. June and July may provide a clearer picture.

The manufacturing industry experienced a heavy employment loss during the recession, but its current performance shows these losses are in the past. This industry is once again growing in Utah, and the current month's survey suggests an increase of roughly 3,300 new positions over the past year. This estimate is lower than the growth estimates of the past several months, and may be the result of the monthly employment survey establishing a more solid footing for this industry. The past several employment reports opined that those manufacturing employment estimates were probably a bit optimistic. All-in-all, though, it is both encouraging and welcome to have this industry growing jobs again in Utah, even as periodic job losses at large employers make headlines.

The trade and transportation sector measured a year-over gain of 4,400 positions. Half of these gains are in retail trade, which makes sense as retail trade accounts for 60 percent of this sector's employment. The other areas are wholesale trade, transportation, and utilities. Wholesale jobs are up 800, and on the back of trucking and warehousing, transportation jobs are up 1,300.

The professional and business services sector is the most robust Utah industry, adding over 9,700 new jobs over the past year. The year-over-year growth rate jumped from 4.2 percent last month to 7.6 percent this month. That is nearly a doubling—in one month! It is difficult to put an economic cause behind this survey estimation. However, even if the quantity is a bit high, the industry is adding jobs, and that is welcome news. On the business services side, which are largely dominated by employment services, employment gains are estimated at nearly 17 percent higher than last May. This makes sense in the current early stage of economic recovery, as many businesses utilize temporary hiring agencies to meet increasing business demand, while they evaluate whether their current business expansion is a new trend or just a temporary blip.

The education and healthcare sector remains an employment stalwart, adding 3,000 new jobs over the past 12 months. Population growth and demographic factors are the main drivers of this sector, with minor impact from the overall economy. Both population growth and the down economy have fueled more students to enter the higher education system. Population increase is the main growth mechanism behind the healthcare industry's expansion.

Government employment is down 2,600 positions this May in relation to last May. A year ago, the 2010 decennial Census was underway and there were many temporary federal government employees administering its questionnaire. With that now a thing of the past, federal employment levels are naturally lower this year. State and local government employment changes are minimal.

*** Utah's June employment information will be released at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 21, 2011.**

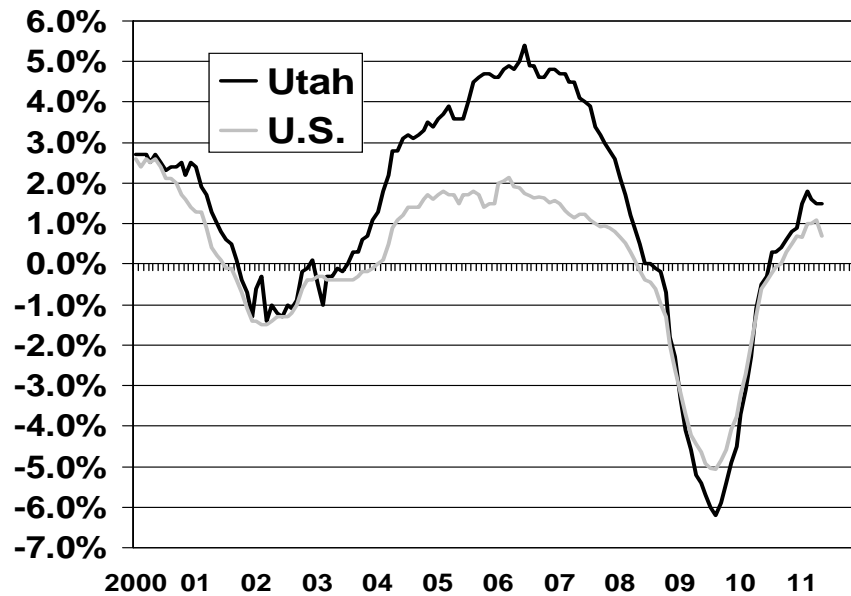
*** County unemployment rates for April will be posted on or shortly after June 20 at <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/pubs/une/season.pdf>**

Utah Nonagricultural Jobs by Industry and Components of the Labor Force

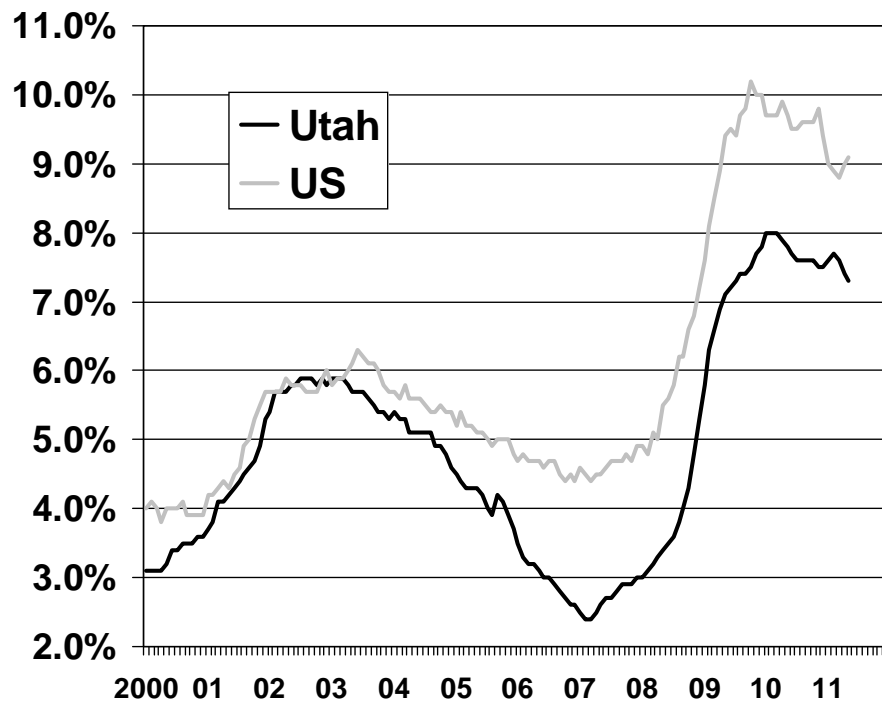
Numbers are in thousands	May(p) 2011	May[r] 2010	Percentage Change	Apr.(r) 2011	Apr.[r] 2010	Percentage Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (seasonally-adjusted)	1,361.4	1,372.5	-0.8	1,358.6	1,375.9	-1.3
Employed	1,261.7	1,265.6	-0.3	1,258.6	1,267.4	-0.7
Unemployed	99.7	106.9	-6.7	100.0	108.5	-7.8
Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.8		7.4	7.9	
NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)	1,200.4	1,183.0	1.5	1,199.3	1,181.5	1.5
Not seasonally-adjusted						
GOODS PRODUCING	188.6	186.0	1.4	187.4	183.3	2.2
Natural Resources, and Mining	10.9	10.4	4.9	10.8	10.2	5.4
Construction	63.7	65.0	-1.9	62.4	62.7	-0.5
Construction of Buildings	11.7	12.5	-6.6	11.3	12.3	-8.2
Heavy and Civil Engineering	11.0	8.8	24.2	10.2	8.3	22.7
Specialty Trade Contractors	41.0	43.6	-5.8	40.9	42.0	-2.8
Manufacturing	114.0	110.7	3.0	114.3	110.4	3.5
Durable Goods	74.4	71.3	4.4	75.1	71.2	5.4
Primary and Fabricated Metals	15.2	14.7	3.3	15.1	14.6	3.4
Computer and Electronic Products	13.8	13.1	5.7	13.8	13.0	5.6
Transportation and Equipment Manufacturing	10.5	11.2	-6.3	10.6	11.2	-5.8
Non-Durable Goods	39.6	39.4	0.5	39.1	39.2	-0.1
SERVICES PROVIDING	1,011.7	997.0	1.5	1,011.9	998.1	1.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	232.2	227.8	1.9	230.2	226.7	1.5
Wholesale Trade	45.0	44.2	1.9	44.6	43.8	1.7
Retail Trade	139.4	137.1	1.7	138.3	136.4	1.4
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	15.8	15.9	-0.6	15.7	15.9	-1.1
Food and Beverage Stores	22.7	22.7	-0.2	22.5	22.6	-0.2
General Merchandise Stores	28.9	28.6	1.1	29.0	28.3	2.5
Transportation and Utilities	47.8	46.5	2.7	47.4	46.5	1.8
Utilities	4.1	4.1	0.8	4.1	4.1	-1.0
Transportation & Warehousing	43.7	42.4	2.9	43.3	42.4	2.1
Air Transportation	6.8	6.5	3.9	6.7	6.5	3.0
Truck Transportation	17.8	17.3	2.6	17.6	17.1	3.0
Information	30.2	29.3	2.9	29.7	29.4	1.2
Publishing Industries	9.0	9.0	-0.8	9.0	9.1	-1.0
Motion Picture and Sound Recording	3.7	3.9	-6.5	3.5	4.2	-16.0
Telecommunications	4.6	4.7	-1.9	4.6	4.6	-1.1
Internet Service Providers	7.3	6.6	9.5	7.2	6.5	10.7
Financial Activities	66.6	67.6	-1.5	66.6	67.8	-1.7
Finance and Insurance	50.9	51.4	-1.0	50.9	51.4	-1.1
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	15.7	16.1	-2.9	15.8	16.3	-3.6
Professional and Business Services	162.4	152.7	6.3	157.3	150.9	4.2
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	69.6	64.7	7.6	68.5	65.7	4.2
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	12.3	12.0	2.3	12.1	12.1	0.0
Computer Systems Design and Related	16.3	15.0	8.6	15.8	14.9	6.1
Management of Companies and Enterprises	18.2	18.7	-2.4	18.2	18.6	-2.0
Administration & Support						
& Waste Management & Remediation	74.6	69.3	7.5	70.6	66.6	6.0
Employment Services	21.3	18.3	16.6	20.1	17.9	12.1
Business Support Services	16.3	17.1	-5.1	16.2	15.7	3.6
Education and Health Services	155.0	152.0	1.9	159.9	156.4	2.3
Educational Services	33.0	31.8	3.6	38.0	36.3	4.8
Health Services and Social Assistance	122.0	120.2	1.5	121.9	120.1	1.5
Ambulatory Health Care Services	50.1	49.1	2.0	50.1	49.0	2.2
Hospitals	32.2	32.0	0.6	32.3	32.2	0.3
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	22.6	22.2	1.7	22.5	22.1	1.9
Social Assistance	17.1	16.9	1.5	17.0	16.8	1.4
Leisure and Hospitality	108.8	109.9	-1.1	112.6	113.0	-0.4
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	16.2	16.7	-3.2	18.6	19.2	-3.1
Accommodation and Food Services	92.6	93.2	-0.7	94.0	93.8	0.2
Accommodation	16.4	16.8	-2.7	17.7	18.1	-2.2
Food Services and Drinking Places	76.2	76.4	-0.2	76.3	75.7	0.8
Other Services	35.3	33.7	5.0	34.5	33.5	2.7
Government	221.3	223.9	-1.2	221.1	220.5	0.3
Federal Government	37.8	42.0	-10.1	37.1	38.2	-2.8
Federal Defense	16.7	16.4	1.8	16.7	16.3	2.0
Other Federal Government	21.1	25.6	-17.7	20.5	21.8	-6.3
State Government	64.7	63.0	2.7	67.2	65.4	2.6
State Schools	35.9	35.2	2.2	38.7	37.7	2.5
Other State Government	28.8	27.8	3.3	28.5	27.7	2.8
Local Government	118.8	118.9	-0.1	116.8	116.8	-0.1
Local Education	66.7	67.4	-1.1	66.5	67.4	-1.3
Other Local Government	52.1	51.5	1.3	50.2	49.5	1.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics p = preliminary r = revised June 16, 2011

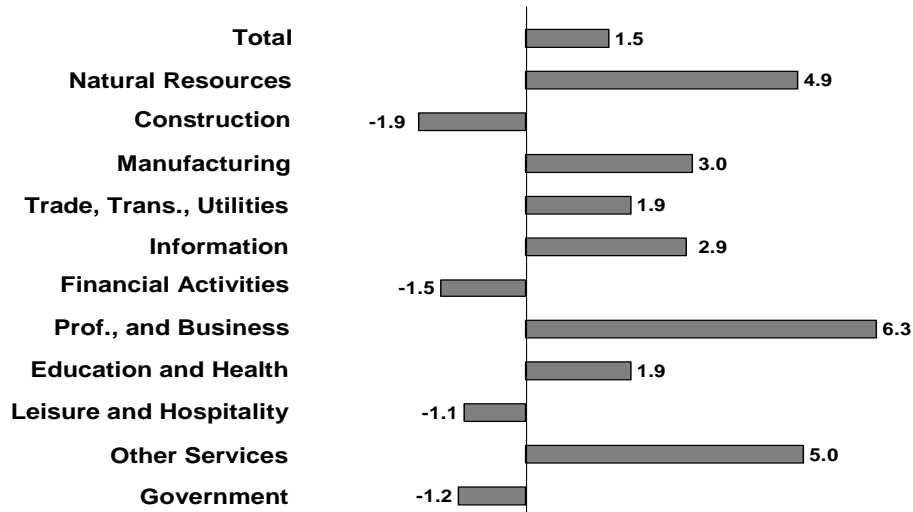
Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs



Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

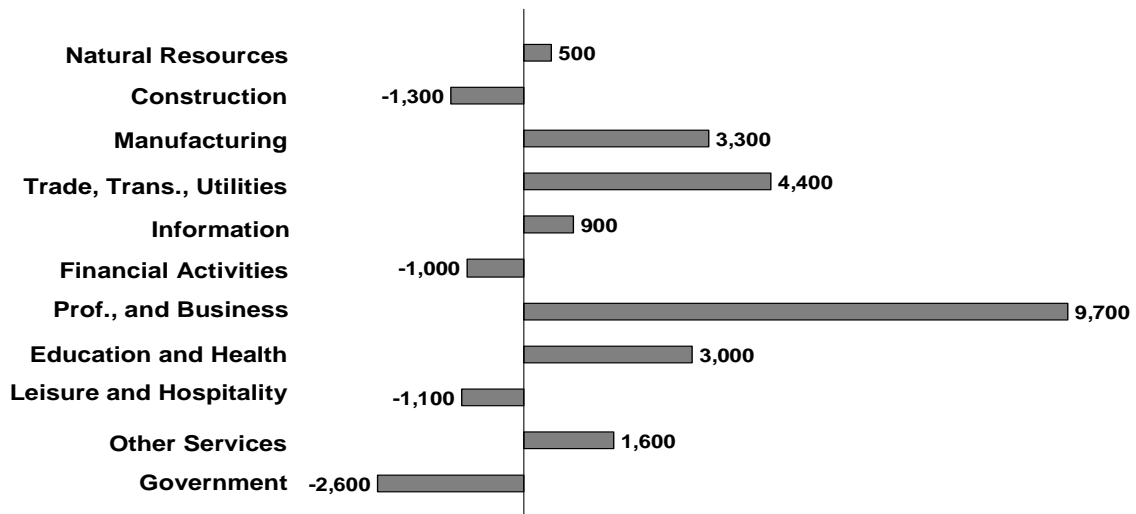


Utah Nonfarm Industry Profile (Percent Change) May 2010 - 2011



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Utah Nonfarm Industry Profile (Numeric Change) May 2010 - 2011



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT IN UTAH'S COUNTIES

	May 2011 <i>Estimate</i>	May 2010 <i>Actual</i>	Percent Change	April 2011 <i>Estimate</i>	March 2011 <i>Estimate</i>
BEAVER	2,146	2,062	4.1	2,046	2,061
BOX ELDER	16,958	17,513	-3.2	16,688	16,501
CACHE	49,383	49,335	0.1	49,893	49,685
CARBON	9,826	9,627	2.1	9,708	9,500
DAGGETT	474	488	-2.9	392	362
DAVIS	103,181	101,656	1.5	101,274	99,394
DUCHESNE	7,779	7,373	5.5	7,757	7,513
EMERY	3,791	3,776	0.4	3,919	3,848
GARFIELD	2,729	2,687	1.6	2,473	1,926
GRAND	5,067	5,013	1.1	4,791	4,256
IRON	15,030	15,165	-0.9	15,188	14,952
JUAB	3,162	3,289	-3.9	3,151	3,042
KANE	3,144	3,181	-1.2	2,908	2,653
MILLARD	4,062	3,965	2.5	3,986	3,977
MORGAN	1,897	1,894	0.2	1,845	1,789
PIUTE	280	295	-5.0	268	274
RICH	616	635	-2.9	525	483
SALT LAKE	577,930	571,243	1.2	575,450	574,233
SAN JUAN	4,329	4,358	-0.7	4,242	3,999
SANPETE	6,894	7,063	-2.4	6,879	6,881
SEVIER	8,075	7,873	2.6	7,891	7,792
SUMMIT	18,597	17,712	5.0	22,999	24,367
TOOELE	15,888	15,482	2.6	16,020	15,652
UINTAH	14,431	13,425	7.5	14,174	13,752
UTAH	176,896	173,374	2.0	178,914	176,812
WASATCH	6,074	5,872	3.4	5,876	5,828
WASHINGTON	45,987	46,568	-1.2	46,571	46,012
WAYNE	1,135	1,172	-3.2	1,043	906
WEBER	90,595	90,963	-0.4	89,637	89,147

Note: Numbers have been left unrounded for convenience rather than to denote accuracy.

Note: Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted. Therefore, comparisons of employment levels from one month to the next should not be used as job creation/loss estimates between those months. Seasonal factors could be the reason. For example, employment levels in September are usually higher than in August, as school employment resumes.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Research and Analysis, 6/16/11